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Steamboat Companies—Interstate Commerce.—The right of a state to require a steamboat company engaged in interstate commerce to maintain an agency and place of business within its limits as a condition of being permitted to touch at ports within the state, is denied in *Ryman Steamboat Line Co. v. Com.* (Ky.) 10 L. R. A. (N. S.) 1187.

Contract or Combination to Lessen Competition.—A contract by a merchant, in consideration of the gift of a small quantity of the commodity which he is engaged in selling, by the agent of the manufacturer whose produce he is handling, to countermand an order given a rival, and not to handle the latter's goods, is held, in *Standard Oil Co. v. State* (Tenn.) 10 L. R. A. (N. S.) 1015, to render the agent liable to punishment at common law and under a statute making illegal any contract or combination to lessen competition.

Absence of Attorney from Court as Contempt.—The St. Louis Court of Appeals in the case of *In re Clark*, 103 Southwestern Reporter 1105, holds that the absence of an attorney from the court in which he has business, and when he should be there to attend to it, and when his absence delays or impedes the court's business, constitutes a contempt of court. An attorney at law is an officer of the court, and it is as much incumbent on him to attend the sittings of the court when a case in which he is of counsel is on trial, and which trial cannot proceed in his absence, as it is for the sheriff or the clerk of the court to be present.

Licensing Drummers Selling Intoxicating Liquors.—The right of a state to impose a license tax on the business of selling intoxicating liquors within the state by traveling salesmen, who solicit orders for wholesale houses in their state, is upheld by the United States Supreme Court, in *Dalamater v. South Dakato*, 27 Supreme Court Reporter, 447. The regulation by a state of the business carried on within its borders to solicit proposals to sell intoxicating liquors, even though such liquors are situated in other states, cannot be held to be repugnant to the commerce clause of the Constitution because directly or indirectly burdening the right to sell in the state—a right which by virtue of the Wilson Act does not exist.

Relief From Void or Fraudulent Marriage.—While a marriage contracted fraudulently or by deception as where one party to the contract impersonates another person, is void and constitutes no marriage in law, nevertheless in equity the chancellor will recognize certain rights which a person so defrauded may have in the premises and which are being violated or are in danger of being violated, as where the other party publishes the fact of the marriage and in other ways